

### **Remarks**

The examiner is thanked for the Official Action dated September 5, 2003. The applicant particularly appreciates the examiner's indication that claims 1-16 and 18 are allowed. This response is intended to fully address the Official Action.

In the Official Action, the examiner indicated that the applicant provisionally elected, with traverse, claims drawn to Group I Species A, as identified by the examiner. Specifically, the applicant elected claims 1-4, 6-13, 15-16 and 18. The applicant confirms this election. Claims 5, 14, 17, and 19-25 were withdrawn from consideration as drawn to a non-elected invention.

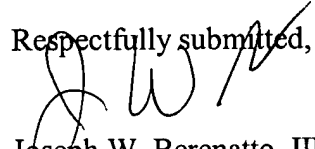
After examination, the examiner determined that claims 1-4, 6-13, 15-16 and 18 were allowable. Since the generic independent claims 1 and 9 were allowable, the examiner indicated that non-elected species dependent claims 5 and 14 were also allowable.

In this response, the applicant has canceled non-elected claims 17 and 19-25. The applicant has also amended claims 4 and 5 to address the lack of antecedent basis for the term "the saw". Claim 16 has been amended to address the lack of antecedent basis for the phrase "the compression step".

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-16 and 18 are in condition for allowance.

If the examiner believes that additional discussion is required, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned. It is believed that no charges are due for this submission. However, if this is incorrect, then please debit Account 50-0548 and notify the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JWB', is written over the typed name.

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